

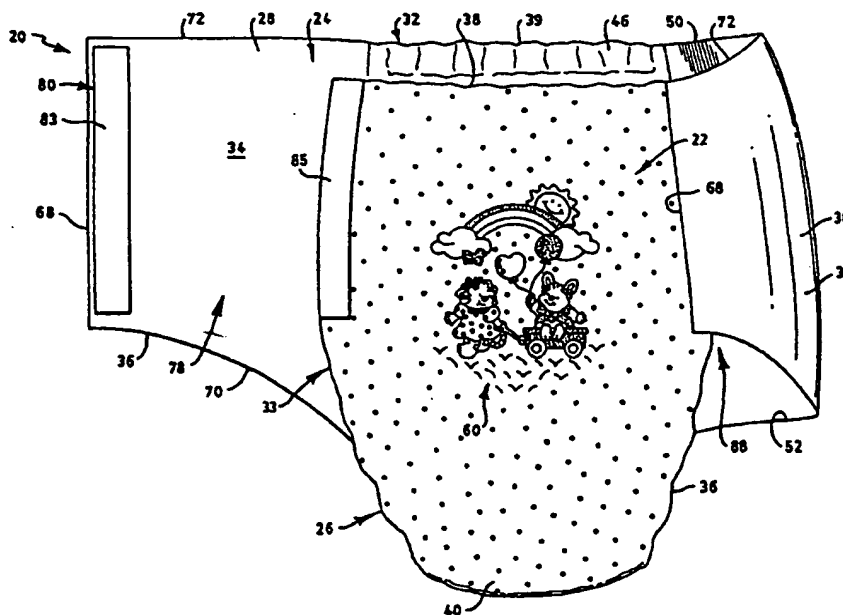


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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/30091</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 16 December 1999 (16.12.99)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: 60/112,708 18 December 1998 (18.12.98) US 09/444,080 22 November 1999 (22.11.99) US</p> <p>(71) Applicant: KIMBERLY-CLARK WORLDWIDE, INC. [US/US]; 401 N. Lake Street, Neenah, WI 54956 (US).</p> <p>(72) Inventors: DIMITRJEVS, Lisa, Ann; 40 Bluemound Court #8, Appleton, WI 54914 (US). FLETCHER, Amy, Lynn; 4300 North Woodridge Drive, Appleton, WI 54913 (US). OLSON, Christopher, Peter; 1012 Pendleton Road, Neenah, WI 54956 (US). RATLIFF, Kathleen, Irene; 1058 Laurel Court, Neenah, WI 54956 (US). WEBER, Shirlee, Ann; 1576 Nelson Court, Neenah, WI 54956 (US). WEST, Susan; Lee; 1747 Mill Pond Court, Neenah, WI 54956 (US).</p> <p>(74) Agents: GAGE, Thomas, M. et al.; Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc., 401 North Lake Street, Neenah, WI 54956 (US).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p> <p>(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 23 November 2000 (23.11.00)</p>
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(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH GARMENT-LIKE REFASTENABLE SEAMS



(57) Abstract

A disposable absorbent article includes a fastening system that can be repeatedly fastened, unfastened and refastened. The refastenable seams formed by the fastening system components provide a garment-like appearance.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte: onal Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61F13/15

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 36566 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 9 October 1997 (1997-10-09) abstract; figures 1,3 page 7, line 15 - line 27	1-3, 5-10, 12, 13, 15, 17-29
A	US 5 531 732 A (WOOD LEIGH E) 2 July 1996 (1996-07-02) abstract; figure 1	1-29
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Information on patent family members

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